

CAROLERS, chanting a song of pure gladness, Worshipers, sounding a joyful refrain, What are these tidings that conquer earth's sadness, Echoing softly o'er city and plain? Hark to the winds and the waters replying, Jubilant, gladsome, their song seems to say, Over the winter world floating and flying: The little Lord Jesus is born King to-day!

FAR, where the Bethlehem valleys lay sleeping Silent and calm in the peaceful moonlight, Came there a burst of high melody sweeping, Rhythmic and tender, one wonderful night: Clearer it sounded, the silver stars brightened, Softer, their brilliance faltered away, Louder, the plain with fair angel forms whitened-The little Lord Jesus is born King to-day!

SHEPHERDS, on guard where the tired flocks were resting,

Started at sound of the wonderful song, Wise men rejoiced, as, their long-held faith testing, Sweetly triumphant 'twas carried along: Sages and toilers alike knew the glory Of music and angels and heavenly ray: Listen! We still hear their worshiping story: The little Lord Jesus is born King to-day!

STILL to the thinkers and toilers who need Him Comes the dear Christ-child when winter is drear, Still, through His "little ones" we all may feed Him. Clothe Him, and shelter, and cherish Him, dear, So in the silence which follows earth's sadness, Waiting, in faith, till the night pass away, Angels shall come, with their message of gladness:

The little Lord Jesus is born King to-day!



### A RESURRECTED CHRISTMAS

By Elvira Floyd Froemcke

N ONE of those misty, gray evenings so common to December, a certain street corner was suddenly enliv ened by a gay whistle, a boy, a bundle o hand-bills and a bucket of paste. With the cold gaze of the electric eye upon him, the boy plastered a bill upon the tall wooden pole, and then stepped back to gaze admiringly on his work, and to give an extra dab or two at the loose edges which thereupon clung to their support in approved

Three women were approaching from different directions, and, thinking to do a good stroke of business for his employer by attracting attention to his advertisement he whistled very shrilly and quite off the key, as he slowly picked up his pail to leave. One old lady stopped and exclaimed, im-

"If you must whistle, why don't you whistle in tune?

The boy only laughed good-naturedly, and took himself off in haste, but the two women approached uttering little expressions of surprise and picasure; for they were old friends, and at the very moment of meeting each had been thinking over bygone days, when their lives were closely in-"Well, here we are," gayly exclaimed Es-

tella; "three graces in ungraceful attire! Did you ever hear such a fearful whistle as that boy had? First he took me off my feet and then I frightened him into finding his. Do see him run," she added, as the youth disappeared round a corner.

"Are you going home?" she inquired They simply answered: "Yes," and all turned to read the poster that had seemed to draw them together:

PROF. WENSEL Tuesday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 16, PSYCHIC MEANING OF CHRISTMAS.

"Well!" they all exclaimed, "what does be mean by that?

"It seems to me easy enough," said Penelope. "It is having the spirit or soul of the season within. I used to think of these things once, but Christmas seems a dead season new. Funny, too," she laughed. "when I have here under my arm 15 proof sheets of Alton's new Christmas story,

which I am to correct this very night." "And I," said Estella, "never celebrate the day now; though I am teaching six new Christmas carels to my pupils, and have an anthem in my music roll to practice for Christmas service in our little church."

"And I," puffed Urania, "have ten pounds pies. It all goes to those greedy boarders | polished andironsanniversary and practical people have out- age and infirmity.

A flare from the electric lamp sent a light over the three keen, intelligent old Miss Verplanck's boarding school? Bless faces, and revealed three sands clasped me, girls, it will be 50 years this Christmas! closely and sympathetically. They were all | Surely you remember it?" well over 60, and their faces bore marks of

sorrow, courage and well-fought battles. Penelope and Urania were what the world calls "old maids" (loving friends would have another name). In youth Penelope had had family, home, wealth and ease; now happy; bless her!" all these had passed from her. She was

strove with love and gifts to recall the poor ailed; remaining as loyally true to him as to her young lover who had been drowned at sea 45 years ago.

Urania had been an only child, motheress from birth. Her noble old father had aid down his life for his country on the attlefield of Gettysburg, and, after mourning him so sincerely many years (assisted by merous impecunious relatives), she awakened to the fact that her money was spent, her house mortgaged, and she was on the verge of ruin through their "care and sympathy." She plucked up courage, swept her souse of kinsfolk, and went practically into the business at which she had played too long. She was plump, rosy and motherly, with great soft hands, a tender heart and a kindly spirit-a great contrast to the pale, ethereal Penelope and the slight, nervous Estella, but her very dissimilarity was an attraction to the others, their different characteristics serving to draw out the best side of their natures.

Estella had lately returned to the old town where all had lived in their early girl-



FIFTY YEARS AGO.

hood, and she brought a spirit that stirred to life many tender memories. She had had er sorrows. Widowed and made childless in the second year of marriage, she had to face the world and turn the art that she adored into a packhorse to sustain her life and carry her over hard bridges.

Now the three had met, and-well, they felt young again, and acted so. "Three old pieces of driftwood toughened by the tide," said Estella. "Too old to celebrate anything, even a day antique as

"I have heard that driftwood makes a beautiful fire for warmth and color," said Penelope, softly,

of dried fruits for the Christmas mince so comforting. Three logs and a pair of well ecstasy, a golden-haired child, softly beckof mine, and I am too tired to know what | An unexpected laugh rang out; Estella |

"Do you remember," said she, "that awful Christmas we were forced to spend at

"Well, I guess we do," chimed in Penelope. "I was exiled because of scarlet fever at home; you because your mother and father were called to London, and dear

Urania, here, stayed lest we should be un "Yes," added Uranis, with a slight flush merely a book canvasser when "the firm" | "and do you remember the feast in Estella's required her services, or a stenographer or room? How you knitted something soft proof-reader when that sort of work and white, and Estella played minor things posite wall, and made the dancing figures pressed. Her "home" was a back room in on the piano, till a tear dropped on one o: look like little girls. The old portraits on a shabby house, on a dull street in the the apples I was roasting for supper, and the good emperor, who now, more than any fied? However much the Germans pass away, but truth and liberty and sleepy old city; her only relative, a brother, how you stuck your knitting needle in that remained. He, alas, was hopelessly insane; apple, so that I should swallow my owr yet the brave woman supported him, al- tear. Then how we danced the Highland Child nestled close to the old hearts that empress, near the most solemn hour glorious queen, these stupendous gov- In Zanzibar, cotton goods form the ways spoke of him as "my weak-winded schottische, Lilittle Miss Verplanck put her | had found Him, and caressed the wrink at brother," visited him on every holiday, and | head in the foor, and said, with that little ! faces into images of love and peace.

cough of hers: 'A little less noise, young ladies, if you please."

"Let us do it all over again," cried Estella. "Come to my rooms on Christmas night at five o'clock. Urania may send the cooked chicken; you, Penelope, shall send the nuts and candies, and I will do the rest." Prof. Wensel did not become richer in pocket through these old ladies, but if, as

he said repeatedly in his lecture, spiritual rewards always found and enriched him, he must have been in affluence after this night. People wondered why Urania laughed so much, one old boarder saying some one must have left her a fortune. Another thought she must be on the lookout for a husband, after which astute conjecture he gave extra attention to his hair and clothes, and tied his scarf with wondrous care. Penelope worked with such zeal that her

employers were surprised. One day she hummed a little tune to herself, at which the junior partner remarked: "By Jove, there's plenty of courage and

work in the old girl yet." Estella spent every spare moment in making her two rooms beautiful and immaculate. She had ceased to grumble about the chimney place being draughty. It was no longer "an unsatisfactory heater and quite out of date." It was now glorious, such a perfect ventilator and so cheerful.

On Christmas day she was prompt at church. The anthem passed off capitally. Everyone was pleased. She visited the chil-



"TIME!" CRIED PENELOPE.

dren's ward in the old hospital, and was so funny and lovely that the pale little creatures stretched out their hands to her, and aughed a little with their hoarse painaden voices. She had emptied her pockets of pennies to the beggars that beset her omeward path, and at three o'clock in the afternoon had dusted every article in the quaint room to a fine polish.

Two great broad windows overlooked a sloping hill and the roofs of many houses. Beyond lay the great gray ocean. A side filled with potted plants that bloomed provandering mind. In this duty she never fusely and overran the ugly red clay that | hundred gates! inclosed them.

Across one corner stood the piano. It was the only really new thing at hand, and its polished surface took on shadows of the ancient grandeur about it, as if in apology for its presence here. Opposite the flower window was another recess filled with book shelves, where goodly reading was to be had between the shabby covers of many an old

A few easy chairs and tables lay cozily about; and the great brick fireplace with its brass andirons and high old mantel shelf was the heart and core of the room. Estella laid the fine thin old cloth carefully on the round, polished table, garnish-

ing it by pinning little sprigs of holly on its She placed Urania's chicken by the warm hearthstone, and on a stool near by laid a

basket of rosy apples and a pile of bread with the great toast-fork on guard. With of crab-apple jelly into an old glass dish, and flanked it by another dish of brandied "That will surprise the girls," she said,

and laughed a little as she showered Penelope's lavish supply of candies in every conceivable little receptacle she could find. Estella looked queenly. Her black satin gown was old, but she had drawn over the patched waist a fichu of soft yellow lace, and fastened in its folds a bunch of pretty old velvet wall flowers. Her hair had a trick of curling itself into proper places, and a glint of its old auburn tint was in its white sheen. Her eyes were bright and her cheeks rosy with expectancy.

Toward five o'clock the shadows grew heavier. Day was almost gone. Estella went to the window, looked out a moment on the sea. "Even the great deep is quiet to-day," she said, "and there is no poor onesly Estella this Christmas."

She drew the curtains, put a fresh log on the blazing fire and hurried to answer a timid little knock that came on her door. As the gust of air rushed in she looked up to see Penelope and Urania with hoods off and hands extended, whilst they sang in nasal tones the old street waif's: "I pray

With many loving kisses, wishes for merry Christmas," and soft little words, hey were divested of wraps and furs and finally nestled down into easy chairs with the restful spirit of the hour floating lightly

on their tired senses. Penelope began knitting some soft, fluffy white thing that grew and grew in ampli tude; and Urania, after examining the preparations for supper with pleased anxiety, busied herself with toast-fork and apples. Estella wandered about the room idly for awhile, saying a few words, and now and again touching the cheek or hair of her old friends with the tips of her slight fingers. Then, finding her seat at the piano, "Yes," added Urania, "and an open fire is she drifted off into the land of music and

> oning the way. Penelope and Urania kept a quiet accomthe eheery logs sang a tune all their own. As the last notes of "Chopin's Lament" ell on the air, a great tear splashed down Urania's soft cheek and fell into the snowy

heart of the last roasted apple. "Time!" cried Penelope, though her own eyes were moist, and she drove her knitting needle straight through the unsuspecting Estella sprang up and came laughing to

the fireside. Then up jumped the others, and, singing the "Keel Row," danced about the table as in their school days. The flames shot a pink light on the op-

Dr. Talmage Speaks of Prosperity of American People.

Divine Blessings Showered Upon Us -He Draws Comparisons Between Our Own and Other Countries.

[Copyright, 1900, by Louis Klopsch, N. Y.] Washington,

Dr. Talmage preaches a discourse of Christian patriotism and shows the resources of our country and predicts the time when all the world will have the same blessings. His two texts are Revelation xxi., 13: "On the south three gates;" Psalm cxlvii.: "He hath not dealt so with any nation."

Among the greatest needs of our country is more gratitude to God for the unparalleled prosperity bestowed upon us. One of my texts calls us to international comparison. What nation on all the planet has of late had such enlargement of commercial opportunity as is now opening before this nation? Cuba and Porto Rico and the Philippine islands brought into close contact with us, and afforded by congress, all the republics colonies, imported from European and yet so many hogs left! countries 3,000 miles away \$675,000,000 worth of goods in a year, only \$126,-000,000 worth went from the United States-\$126,000,000 out of \$675,000,-European nations taking the four fingers and leaving us the poor thumb. only a ferry between us and Bolivia, Peru, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela, Salvador, Nicaragua, Colombia, Costa Rica, Equador, Brazil, while there are raging seas and long voyage between them and Europe. By the mandate of the United States all that will be changed through new facilities of transportation. The Hispano-American congress just closed divert all the trade of South America from us to Europe. What encouraging symptoms that our trade with Cuba and Porto Rico has been quadwindow was shelved from top to sill, and | rupled! But that is only a prophecy.

"On the south three gates"-yea, a In anticipation of what is sure to come, I nail on the front door of this

nation an advertisement: Wanted. - One hundred thousand men to build railroads through South America and the islands of the sea under our protection.

Wanted .- A thousand telegraph op-Wanted .- One hundred million dollars' worth of dry goods from the

great cities of the United States. Wanted .- All the clocks you can make at New Haven and all the brains you can spare from Boston and all the bells you can mold at Troy and all the reapers you can fashion at Chicago and all the hams you can turn out at Cincinnati and all the railroad iron you can send from Pittsmuch pride of manner she turned out a glass | burgh and all the statesmen that you can spare from Washington.

Wanted. - Right away, wanted by new and swift steamers, wanted by rail-train, lawyers to plead our

Wanted .- Doctors to cure our sick. Wanted. - Ministers to evangelize our population. Wanted. - Professors to establish

our universities. "On the south three gates," yea, a thousand gates. South America and all the islands of the sea approximate are rightfully our commercial domain, and the congress of the United States will see to it that we get what belongs

And then tides of travel will be somewhat diverted from Europe to our islands at the south and to the land of the Aztees. Much of the \$125,000,000 yearly expended by Americans in Europe will be expended in southern exploration, in looking at some of the ruins of the 47 cities which Stephens found only a little way apart and in you, merry gentlemen." Estella laughingly | walking through the great doorways

largement as ours?

A FAVORED NATION. anxious for him to whom she has given groan of dissatisfaction as wide as hand and heart, not for political res- Europe. If it were left to the people sons, but through old-fashioned love of England or Austria or Germany or such as blesses our humbler dwellings; Russia whether these expensive estab-India under the agonies of a famine lishments should be kept up, do you which, though somewhat lifted, has doubt what the vote would be? Now, filled hundreds of thousands of graves is it not better that we be overtaxed and thrown millions into orphanage; and the surplus be distributed all over Austria only waiting for her genial the land than to have it built up and Francis Joseph to die so as to let Hungary rise in rebellion and make the palace of Vienna quake with insurrection; Spain in Carlist revolution and pauperized; Italy under the horrors of her king's assassination; China shuddering with a fear of dismemberment, in other lands can you find a more ap- cholera. Epidemics in America are State Institute a delegated body of 140 propriate utterance in regard to our country than the exclamation of the text: "He hath not dealt so with any

nation?" Compare the autumnal report of harvests in America this year and the harthe continent of Europe twice, and I saw no such harvests as are spoken of tell you that the corn crop of our country this year is one of the four largest crops on record-2,105,000,000 bushels! of South America will be brought into wheatfields have provided bread enough most active trade with the United and to spare. The potato crop, one of 000,000 bushels! Twenty-two million southern republics and neighboring two hundred thousand swine slain, But now I give you the comparative

exports and imports, which tell the story of national prosperity as noth-000, only one-fifth of the trade ours, imports, \$544,400,000. Now let all pesing else can. Excess of exports over simists hide themselves in the dens and caves of the earth, while all grate-Now all this is to be changed. There ful souls fill the churches with doxolis nothing but a comparative ferry ogy. Notice also that while other between the islands which have re-cently come under our protection, their finances this nation has money to in Wall street. If you must borrow money, we have it all ready. How much will you have? Russia, we also welcome you into our money markets. Give us good collateral. Meanwhile, Denmark, will you please accept our offer of \$3,000,000 for the island of St. Thomas? My hearers, there is no nation on earth with such healthy condiat Madrid will fail in its attempt to tion of finances. We wickedly waste an awful amount of money in this country, but some one has said it is easier

to manage a surplus than a deficit. Besides this, we have in our country plenty of room, while the trans-Atlantic nations are crowded-crowded crowded, packed in between the Pyrenees and the Alps, packed in between

ballot box in the autumnal election to burn with its consuming treasures. they all seem satisfied, and if they are The heavens were blackened with ution every four years? Would it not | thunder of falling beams and in the as certainly as we do. At some adverse | ing: "Aha! aha!" vote in parliament out goes one party may change almost any day, while with at least four years.

difference is that in our country al- frown on its magnificent sculpture, no whirled them into the room, saying: "I am | and over the miracles of Mosaic and | most every officer has a chance to flush of excitement in its veins of maralong by the monumental glories of steal, while in other lands a few peo- ble. Column and capital and dome, another civilization, and ancient ple absorb so much that the others built to endure until the world itself America will with cold lips of stone have no chance at appropriation. The shatters in convulsions of the last kiss the warm lips of modern America, reason they do not steal is because earthquake. Oh, what a contrast beand to have seen the Andes and Popo- they cannot get their hands on it. tween the smoking ruin on the one catapetl will be deemed as important The governments of Europe are so hand and that gorgeous dream of aras to have seen the Alpine and Balkan expensive that after the salaries of chitecture on the other! Well, the day ranges, and there will be fewer people | the royal families are paid there is speeds on when the grandest achievespoiled by foreign travel, and in our not much left to misappropriate. The ment of man will be consumed and the midst less of the poor and nauseating emperor of Russia has a nice little world will blaze. Down will go galimitation of the French shrug and the salary of \$8,210,000. The emperor of leries of art and thrones of royalty, intentional hesitancy of a brainless Austria has a yearly salary of \$4,000,- and the hurricane of God's power will foreign swell. The fact is that many | 000. Victoria, the queen, has a sal- scatter even the ashes of consumed are made vain by European travel, and, ary of \$2,200,000. The royal plate of greatness and glory. Not one tower | icated on the point that the act as rethough sensible when they embarked. St. James palace is worth \$10,000,000. left, not one city unconsumed, not one corded in Nashville does not bear the they return with a collar and a cravat | There is a host of attendants, all on scene of grandeur to relieve the desola- signature of the speaker of the house and a shoe and a coat and a pronun- salaries, some of them \$5,000 a year, tion. Forests dismasted, seas licked of representatives. ciation and a contempt for American some \$6,000 a year. Comptroller of up, continents sunk, hemispheres aninstitutions and a bend of the elbow | the household, mistress of the robes, | nihilated. Oh, the roar and thunder-Christmas means in these days. It is a dead was certainly forgetting nerves, and cold, paniment with needles and fork, and up the that make one believe in evolution! chimney tiny flame spirits danced, while backward from man to ape. Of the silver stick, clerk of the powder closet, But from that ruin of a blazing earth operations last week. Their capacity many thousands who now cross the sea pages of the back stairs, master of we shall look up to see the temple of is 10,000 spindles, employing about 200 annually thousands will, on pleasure the horse, chief equerry, equerries in liberty and justice rising through the people. and business, visit southern lands, and ordinary, crown equerry, hereditary ages, white and pure and grand, unso tourists and merchants and scien- grand falconer, vice chamberlain, scarred and unshaken. Founded on the tists and capitalists will all help in this clerk of the kitchen, grooms in wait- eternal rock and swelling into domes national development. "On the south ing, lords in waiting, grooms of the of infinitude and glory, in which the three gates." And what other nation court chamber, sergeant-at-arms, halleluiahs of Heaven have their rehas such openings for commercial en- barge master and waterman, eight verberation. No flame of human hate bedchamber women, eight ladies of shall blacken its walls. No thunder of over \$600,000. Again, in this international com- the bedchamber and so on and so on, infernal wrath shall rock its foundaparison notice the happy condition of All this is only a type of the fabulous tions. By the upheld torches of burnour country as compared with most expense of foreign governments. All ing worlds we shall read it on column countries; Russia, under the shadow this is paid out of the sweat and blood and architrave and throne of eternal of the dreadful illness of her great and of the people. Are the people satis- dominion: "Heaven and earth shall little flame spirits jeered; but the great logs | man in all the world, represents "peace | like William, and Austria likes Fran- justice shall never pass away." sang a soft sweet song, and the dear Christ on earth, good will to men," and whose cis Joseph, and England likes her that ever comes to a woman's soul, is erpmental expenses are built on a chief article of commerce.

piled up inside of palaces? Continuing this international com-

parison, I have to say to you that we have a better climate than is to be found in any other nation. We do not suffer from anything like the Scotch mists or the English fogs or her capital in possession of foreign na- the Russian ice blasts or the typhus tions. After a review of the condition of southern Europe or the Asiatio exceptional, very exceptional. Plentv of wood and coal to make a roaring fire midwinter, easy access to sea beach or mountain top when the ardors of summer come down, Michigan wheat for the bread, Long Island corn ests abroad. Last summer I crossed for the meal, Carolina rice for the queen of puddings, Louisiana sugar to sweeten our beverages, Georgia in this statement. Hear it, all you men cotton to keep us warm. In our land and women who want everybody to all products and all climates. Are have enough to eat and wear. I have to your nerves weak? Go north. Is your throat delicate? Go south. Do you feel crowded and want more room? Go west. I declare it: This The cotton crop, though smaller than is the best country in all the world through steamship subsidy and Nic- at some times, will on that account to live in. How do I know it? I aragua canal, which will surely be bring bigger prices, and so cotton plant- have 650,000 new reasons for saying ers of the south are prosperous. The it. Six hundred and fifty thousand people in one year came from the

> is the very best country to live in. While making this international comparison let us look forward to the time which will surely come when all nations will have as great advantages as our own. As surely as the Bible is true the whole earth is to be gardenized and set free.

Many years ago in this city I gazed upon a scene which for calamity and grandeur one seldom sees equaled. I mean the burning of the Smithsonian institution. It was the pride of our tion, \$98,665,001; State tax, \$345,327.34. country. In it art had gathered rarest For 1899, total value, \$88,725,701; State specimens from all lands and countries. It was one of those buildings which 787.46. seize you with enchantment as you enter, and all the rest of your life holds \$340,359,148; State tax, \$1,221,256.06. you with a charm. I happened to see | For 1899, total value, \$308,714,955; State the first glow of the fires which on tax, \$1,080,101.77; increase for 1900, that cold day looked out from the win- \$240,754.28. dows of the costly pile. I saw the angry elements rear and rave. The shout of affrighted workmen and the assault of fire engines only seemed to madden the rage of the monsters that rose up to died last week in the 38th year of his devour all that came within reach of age. Mr. Ford went to Chattanooga in their chain. Up along the walls and 1864, having been sent there by the through the doors were pushed hands United States government to take that snatched down all they could charge of the army transportation dereach and hurled it into the abvss of partment, a most important assignment cities, crowded governments, crowded flame beneath. The windows of the at that time. After the war he settled learned institutions; the population tower would light up for a minute with in Hamilton county and took up farma wild glare and then darken, as ing. He was the first ex-Federal solthough fiends with streaming locks of dier of the period immediately after the the English channel and the Adriatic. fire had come to gaze on in laughing Yes, on our continent plenty of room. | mockery at all human attempts and Eight million square miles in North | then sunk again into their native dark-America and all but one-seventh capa- ness. With crackle and roar and crash ble of rich cultivation, implying what the floors tumbled. The roofs began fertility and commerce! Four basins here and there to blossom in wreaths pouring their waters into the Atlantic, and vines of flame. Up and down the Pacific, Arctic and Gulf of Mexico! pillars ran serpents of fire. Out from When I hear a man expressing the fear the windows great arms and fingers of that this country is going to be crowd- flame were extended, as though deed. I know right away he has not been stroyed spirits were begging for delivn Texas. France has about 59,000,000 erance. The tower put on a coronet of of people, but Texas is larger than flame and staggered and fell, sparks France; Germany about 67,000,000 of flying, the firemen escaping, the terror people, but Texas is larger than Ger- accumulating. Books, maps, rare correspondence, autographs of kings, Again, there is no land on earth costly diagrams burned to cinder or camp attended the funeral almost to a where the political condition is so sat- scattered for many a rood upon the man. isfactory as in ours. Every two years wild wind, to be picked up by the exin the state and every four years in the cited multitude. Oh, it seemed like nation we clean house. After a ve- some great funeral pile in which the hement expression of the people at the | wealth and glory of our land had leaped

be better, like us, to have a queen for a roaring surge of billowing fire I heard lifetime and everything settled?" the spirits of ruin and desolation and But England changes government just | woe clapping their hands and shoutand in comes another. Administra- dome of yonder capitol, which rose tions change there, but not as advan- through the frosty air as imposing as tageously as with us, for there they though all the white marble of the earth had come to resurrection and us a party in power continues in power stood before us, reminding one of the great white throne of Heaven. There it It is said that in our country we stood, unmoved by the terrors which have more dishonesty in the use of that day had been kindled before it. public funds than in other lands. The No tremor in its majestic columns, no

# TENNESSEE STATE NEWS.

Farmers' Institute.

The State Farmers' Institute held a three days' session at Nashville last week. Much of the time of the session was taken up in the reading and discus-

sion of papers. One of the principal addresses was by Major John J. McCann, and was an attack upon the alleged wheat combine existing in Nashville. He said the question of breaking up the combine was of more importance than the holding of institutes or the use of fertilizers or anything else.

A resolution was adopted making the members, and giving apportionment of these delegates to the executive committee, providing that each county shall have at least one delegate.

A resolution memorializing Senators Bate and Turley to vote for the Grout oleomargarine bilt was adopted, 22 to 17, although the charge was made that it was class legislation.

Resolutions were adopted recommending that a course of text books teaching agriculture be added to the public school course, and that the offices of commissioner of agriculture and superintendent of public instruction be made elective.

#### State Valuation.

The following are the total property valuations of the different grand divi-States. "On the south three gates." the five largest crops on record—211,- America, and they came because it pared with those of 1899, and the increase in the State tax:

Total valution for 1900 for East Tennessee, \$94,243,076; State tax, \$329,850.14. For 1899 the valuation is \$83,820,349; State tax, \$293,370.91; increase of tax for for 1900, \$36,479,23.

Middle Tennessee-Total valuation, \$147,451,071; State tax, \$516,078.58. For 1899, \$136,268,906; State tax, \$476,590.98; increase for 1900, \$39,499.81.

For West Tennessee-Total valuatax, \$310,539.88; increase for 1900, \$34,

For State at Large-Total valuation,

### A Good Man Gone.

'Squire W. P. Ford, one of the most prominent citizens of Hamilton county,

war who stood by the returning Confederate soldiers, and he exerted his influence most effectually to put a stop to the reign of the mob and to discourage damage suits brought by camp followers and generally by vagabonds against the returning Confederates. Many of these ex-Confederate soldiers admit today they owe the protection of their property and perhaps their lives to his activity and influence at that time.

Two members of Forrest Camp, Confederate Veterans, were among the pall-bearers, and the members of the

# Work Saspended.

The announcement has been made public that the great new auditorium building, being constructed by the Monteagle assembly, the foundations not satisfied, at any rate they smile. whirlwinds of smoke, through which of which are almost completed, is to be An Englishman asked me in an English shot the long red shafts of calamity. discontinued, owing to the lack of availrail train this question: "How do you Destruction waved its fiery banner able funds. Dr. George B. Summy, people stand it in America with a revo- from the remaining towers, and in the chairman of the building committee, it is also reported, has resigned. There are some thirty-odd masons, stonecutters and other laborers who will be thrown out of work and who have received no pay for more than a month. I turned and looked upon the white These incidents render the outlook for the assembly next season rather gloomy.

# Tennessee Central Stock Increase.

Secretary of State Morgan has granted an amendment to the charter of the Tennessee Central Railway, increasing its capital stock to \$300,000, from \$20,000 per mile to \$25,000 per mile, the increase to be effective on and relate only to the sixty miles of road now completed and in operation, the remaining increased stock to be issued as said road shall be built, and as the charter of the company may be hereafter duly amended to provide for said increase.

#### Cigarette Law Unconstitutional. Cigarettes are now on sale in Knox-

ville. Judge J. W. Sneed of the Knox county circuit court holds that the anticigarette law passed by the Tennessee legislature in 1899 is unconstitutional and void. Judge Sneed's point is pred-

# Begin Operations.

The Knoxville cotton mills began

#### J. H. Butler's Proposed Line. J. H. Butler of Oliver Springs will

build six miles of railroad from that place to Frost Bottom. It will open up six large coal mines. The deal involves Ed. Wilson Goes to the Pen.

Ed. Wilson, the supposed leader of the gang of bank robbers which has been operating in East Tennessee for several months, submitted at Jonesboro and was sentenced to eight Tears in in the penitentiary for robbing the Jonesboro bank's few weeks ago. This, it is believed, will stop the operations.